

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/970,472

Applicant(s)

SUGARMAN, MICHAEL

Examiner

Laura C Cole

Art Unit

1744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09 December 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6-9 and 12-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 May 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>02152005</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian Dugan on 14 February 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1 Line 15 please delete - - and - - and in its place insert - - , - -

Claim 1 Line 15 after "brush" please insert - - , and at an angle that does not direct sonicated fluid upwardly - -

Claim 7 Line 16 please delete - - and - - and in its place insert - - , - -

Claim 7 Line 16 after "brush" please insert - - , and at an angle that does not direct sonicated fluid upwardly - -

Claim 12 Line 14 please delete - - and - - and in its place insert - - , - -

Claim 12 Line 15 after "brush" please insert - - , and at an angle that does not direct sonicated fluid upwardly - -

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art made of record includes a plurality of rollers, a scrubber brush, a sonic nozzle positioned at an elevation below the elevation of the scrubber brush that outputs a sonicated fluid spray that contacts a beveled edge of a vertically oriented substrate located below the sonic nozzle, wherein

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the sonic nozzle is angled so as to direct the sonicated fluid spray towards the vertically oriented substrate, away from the scrubber brush, and at an angle that does not direct sonicated fluid upwardly. The Applicant's invention solves the problem that sonic energy deteriorates scrubbing brushes, so therefore positions nozzles such that the nozzle is angled so as to direct the sonicated fluid spray towards the vertically oriented substrate, away from the scrubber brush, and at an angle that does not direct sonicated fluid upwardly (see Page 2 of Applicant's specification, Lines 11-24).

USPN 5,875,507 to Stephens et al. discloses a vertically arranged substrate, supported by rollers, that has an edge that is cleaned by nozzle(s) which are angled to direct fluid spray towards the substrate, away from a scrubber brush, and *at an angle that does in fact direct sonicated fluid upwardly* (see Figure 6, nozzles 56-59 display a fluid path that shows fluid pointing away from the scrubber brush and upwardly towards the scrubber brush). Additionally, Stephens et al. does not disclose that the nozzle is sonic.

USPN 5,868,857 to Moinpour et al. discloses a horizontally arranged substrate that has an edge that is cleaned by a nozzle that is angled to direct fluid spray towards the substrate and away from a scrubber brush (504 or 506), and *at an angle that does in fact direct sonicated fluid upwardly*. It is noted that the nozzle of Moinpour et al., while not directing fluid towards a scrubbing brush, is directing fluid towards another scrubbing element (600).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should

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preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura C Cole whose telephone number is (571) 272-1272. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30am - 5pm, alternating Fridays.

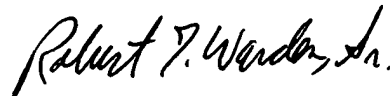
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J Warden can be reached on (571) 272-1281. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LCC

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15 February 2005



ROBERT J. WARDEN, SR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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